GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Home Department – A.P. Jail Services – Empanelment of NGOs to engage their services in various areas for reformation and rehabilitation of the prisoners in the Jails of Andhra Pradesh State – Permission Accorded – Orders – Issued.

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HOME (PRISONS & FIRE) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.1526 **Dated: 13.12.2023**

Read the following:-

1. From the Joint Secretary (CS), CS Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, Letter No.V.11018/3/2010-PR, dated: 24.07.2015.
2. From the Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, letter No. Jud-2/25/2021, Dated: 11.08.2021.
3. Govt. Memo No.1535512/P&F/A1/2021, Dated:18.10.2021 & 17.10.2023
4. From the Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, letter No. Jud-2/25/2021, Dated: 10.11.2023.

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ORDER:

In the reference 2nd read above, the Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri has stated that Andhra Pradesh Prisons and Correctional Department serves with the goal of "Custody, Care and Correction" by keeping the inmates in safe custody, look after them with human touch and transform them into law-abiding and useful citizens to the society after release. In this regard, Andhra Pradesh Prisons Department is implementing a three-fold strategy i.e., Reformation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration. To achieve these objectives, Prisons Department is using the tools such as Education with context on Morality, Religious Discourses, Vocational trainings, cultural activities, Sports and Games and also imparting skills in various trades during the incarceration.

2. The Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri has further stated that the community participation (NGO's) is very much important in Prison administration to achieve the main objective of reformation of the prisoners, rehabilitation after their release and their reintegration into society. The Prison officers are serving only to lock and unlock prisoners and to keep them secure. Thus, the prison operates as black boxes and complex covert system. Due to less community participation, the gap between community and prison functionaries is widening day to day.

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3. The Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, has further stated that the objective of Imprisonment seeks to protect community and to rehabilitate offenders. If community participation in Prisons is increased, it will ensure that the gap between the expectations of community members and that of prison officials can be bridged by bringing the two in close contact and initiating a meaningful dialogue about the mutual problems and concerns. If the idea of imprisonment is to rehabilitate the offender as law abiding citizen, it is the community (where the prisoner comes from and to which he/she will return after his/her release), which should be actively involved in the treatment during incarceration. To bring the sustainable reforms in prisons, community participation i.e, involvement of N.G.O's in the Reformation and Rehabilitation activities in the Prison is imperative.

4. The Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri has further stated that the All India Committee on Jail Reform (Mulla Committee – 1980-83) has stressed in its report about the importance of the involvement of Non Governmental Organizations in the Jails.

5. The Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri has further stated that as community participation (NGO's) in the Jails of Andhra Pradesh other than the area of Moral and Spiritual activities is very meager. Due to this, the Reformation and Rehabilitation of the Prisoners is not up to the expected level. Apart from the tool of Spiritual and Moral activities, there are other tools also like Health and Medical Support, Recreation and Entertainment, Vocational/skills training, Free legal aid etc. which can play key role in the process of Reformation and Rehabilitation of inmates. Hence, there is a dire need to engage the services of N.G.O's in the following specified areas.

i. Health and Medical Support
ii. Recreation (Sports and Games) and Entertainment
Iii Fine Arts and Culture
iv Moral and Spiritual activities
v Counselling and Therapy in Psychology /Psychiatry
vi Vocational/Skills Training
vii Education including 1) Computer literacy 2) English Language and 3) Personality Development and Communication Skills
viii Yoga and Meditation
ix Drugs Abuse and awareness
x Support to Children & Family members of the prisoners
xi Free Legal Aid and other allied areas.

6. The Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri has therefore requested the Government to accord permission to engage the services of NGO's through inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) from them in various areas for reformation and rehabilitation of the prisoners in the Jails of Andhra Pradesh State, without any financial obligations on the part of the Prisons Department.

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7. Government after careful consideration of the matter hereby permit the Prisons Department to engage the services of NGO's through inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) from them in various areas for reformation and rehabilitation of the prisoners in the Jails of Andhra Pradesh State, without any financial obligations on the part of the Prisons Department. Following instructions must be adhered to during this process.

a) DG Prisons must ensure that terms and conditions of empanelment of NGO's must be clearly specified in EOI.
b) DG Prisons must ensure that the process to empanel the NGO's must be transparent and through a selection committee to be constituted by DG Prisons.
c) There shall be through background check of the NGO's whose services are being enlisted.
d) DG Prisons shall ensure that the no provision of the jail manual is violated by NGO's.
e) DG Prisons reserves the right to terminate the service of NGO, if anything comes to notice against the NGO concerned.
f) MOU must be entered between the prisons Department and NGO clearly specifying the activities, role and responsibilities along with time period for which the services are engaged.
g) Proper record of the activities must be maintained in the jails where these activities are conducted.
h) Annual audit of the activities of NGO's along with the impact assessment on the prisoners shall be done and copy of the report must be sent to Government by 1st of June.

8. The Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, shall take further necessary action accordingly and follow the guidelines scrupulously issued by the Government of India from time to time in the regard.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

HARISH KUMAR GUPTA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services,
Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri.
Copy to:
OSD to Hon'ble M (Home)
P.S to Principal Secretary to Government
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER